



# PILGRIMS HOSPICE SOCIETY

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**For Immediate Release**

### **Bring it Home: Edmonton's First Free-Standing Residential Community Hospice Nearing Completion with Calls for Community Support**

**July 27, 2020**

**Edmonton** – If you've been with a family member nearing the end of life, you know the options for care are not always ideal. So many people wish they could die at home with their families close. Yet, 60% won't.

This is what Pilgrims Hospice Society has been working to change. In the Spring of 2019, Pilgrims Hospice Society launched a 15-million-dollar Home for Hospice Capital Campaign to build Edmonton's first compassionate and family-friendly residential hospice centre.

The Roozen Family Hospice Centre will have 12 private and comfortable suites, an open dining room, kitchen, quiet rooms, living spaces and 24/7 nursing care integrated with the community programs and grief support Pilgrim's Hospice has been providing families young and old for over 25 years.

Construction on the Roozen Family Hospice Centre has continued throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and the building is scheduled for completion at the end of October 2020.

Pilgrim's Hospice Society is in the final fundraising push and is launching the Bring It Home Campaign – with the goal of raising the remaining 2.7 million dollars of its total 15 million dollar campaign. The Society would like to personally thank Harold Roozen for stepping forward once again – offering to match gifts up to 1 million dollars to see this dream become a reality.

**Edmonton Media are Invited for a sneak peek tour of the construction of the brand new Roozen Family Hospice Centre including a resident suite and common spaces.**

**Date:** July 28, 2020

**Time:** 10 a.m.

**Location:** 9808 148 Street NW

**In attendance will be some of Edmonton's greatest champions who support a Home for Hospice including Patrick La Forge, Beth Allard -Clough, Richard Wong, Garnet Clark and Monica Robson, Executive Director of Pilgrims Hospice Society.**

"This is a really important First-for-Edmonton that we are building for our community," says philanthropist Harold Roozen. "The Capital Campaign Cabinet, Board and team at Pilgrims Hospice Society is doing an outstanding job raising these funds, however the current health pandemic has had an impact. Times are tougher, and we are so close. I hope my additional support will inspire others to help us cross the finish line. Together we will open the doors to Edmonton's newest hospice centre."

No one knows the value of a residential hospice better than Carole Anctil-Michalyszyn, Board Director and Chair of the Pilgrim's Hospice Building Steering Committee.

"My Dad recently spent his last 5 days at the residential Hospice in Parksville. My brother, my Mom and I were able to be with Dad, together, on his last day, as he passed peacefully in his sleep. My Mom's explanation of the hospice experience was, 'they treated him like he was their father'. Having now experienced first-hand the expertise, compassion, and support offered in a residential hospice, I am even more committed to the work our Society is doing, and better appreciate the wonderful gift we are bringing to Edmonton."

Pilgrims Hospice Society wants to ensure those at the end of life, have a better-than-home residential hospice that meets the needs for specialized end-of-life care in our community. This will lessen the strain on so many families at a time when just being together in a comfortable place is all they need.

Together we can bring hospice care closer to home.

For more information on a Home for Hospice visit: [www.homeforhospice.com](http://www.homeforhospice.com)

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